

civic engagement through 366 projects statewide. This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the organization implementing the Serve America Act, will commit over \$75 million to support California communities through national service initiatives.

The Serve America Act has empowered individuals, nonprofits, state governments, and local communities to address our nation's most pressing challenges through service. The significant progress already made since the passing of this legislation, and the attitude of selflessness that it has promoted make it entirely fitting that we take this time to honor and commemorate the first anniversary of the Serve America Act. Thanks to the leadership of the President, the bipartisan support of Congress, new authorities under the Serve America Act, historic funding for programs, and a growing consensus that service is a solution, we stand at the dawn of a new era of service in America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1276.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
THE 100TH BATTALION, 442ND
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM
AND THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave individuals who served in the Military Intelligence Service and the Army's 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT)—the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. military. These patriotic Americans, many of whom came from Placer County, California, served at a time when many of their families were interned in camps far from their homes.

I am proud that the people of Placer County have partnered with the Japanese American Citizens League to create a permanent memorial commemorating the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the U.S. military during World War II. The memorial includes a 36-foot compass laid in concrete to symbolize the journey of the 442nd RCT located on Go For Broke Road, which is named in honor of the unit's motto.

As our community moves into the second phase of this project, I congratulate everyone involved and thank them for their ongoing efforts to honor those individuals who risked and sacrificed so much in defense of our great Nation and the ideals for which we stand.

HONORING MR. PURVIS YOUNG

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Mr. Purvis Young, one of South Florida's most storied artists. He transformed a troubled life with brush strokes, painting the joys and sorrows of his people on

objects discarded in his Overtown neighborhood. Because of his great talent, he received international recognition.

Born February 2, 1943 in Miami's Liberty City to Vera Mae Wright, Mr. Young learned the art of drawing as a young boy watching his maternal Uncle Irving who was a figurative artist. He picked up his first paintbrush at the age of 20. Mr. Young attended school up to the 8th grade during which time he swam at Dixie Park (now called Gibson Park) and he was invited to paint a mural on the Overtown Library, adjacent to the pool. With the guidance of two of Miami-Dade Public Library System's finest, Barbara Young (Librarian Curator of the Permanent Collection, Art Services and Exhibitions Programs) and Margarita Cano (Administrator of Community Relations), Mr. Young buried himself amongst the books, hungry for knowledge that could explain the world to him.

For the first 50 years of his life, Mr. Young remained within the county lines of Miami. It was not until his 6th decade that he traveled to other states and cities and learned that he was famous, a fact he missed while art dealers encouraged him to seclude himself in his studio. A self-taught artist, Mr. Young enjoyed telling the story of how he turned his life around in the mid-1960s by painting vibrant murals and conceptualizing mixed-media expressionist works. He said he found his calling after serving a prison term for breaking and entering when an angel told him, "This is not your life."

Mr. Young completed most of his work at night and created exquisite, thoughtful art from garbage he plucked off the streets of Overtown. Environmentally conscious and unwilling to contribute to further deforestation, Mr. Young's "canvases" were made of recycled products including found wood, discarded library books, old political posters, used furniture and various surplus items from construction sites. He painted with latex, acrylic, enamel, and combinations of new paint blended with old paint that he had for 25 years or more. His work was famous for intensely colored urban landscapes, drawings and mixed-media constructions.

Today, Mr. Young's work is in more than 60 public collections and numerous private ones—in 2006 alone he had six exhibitions. His work hangs in The Bass Museum of Art (Miami); American Folk Art Museum (New York); The Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.); High Museum of Art (Atlanta); Lowe Art Museum (University of Miami); Museum of Fine Arts (Houston); New Orleans Museum of Art; Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Smithsonian American Art Museum among many. On December 24, 2006, the Sun-Sentinel's Emma Trelles named the Boca Raton Museum of Art's Purvis Young exhibition #1 in the art category for the year in South Florida. Several of his works are part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

"Purvis was one of the great geniuses of American art, a remarkable figure," said Jacquelyn Serwer, chief curator of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, which breaks ground in 2012. "He wasn't particularly nurtured, yet was driven to do this work. He was just one of those people who was born with this extraordinary vision and stayed true to it, producing work that had a kind of mythical quality to it."

Mr. Young is survived by his long-time companion, Eddie Mae Lovest, four daughters, Kenyatta, Kentranice, Taketha and Elisha, and 13 grandchildren. In addition, he is survived by two sisters, Betty Rodriguez and Shirley Byrd, and a brother, Irvin Byrd.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all the members of this esteemed legislative body to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Dr. Purvis Young. I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Young for his invaluable services and tireless dedication to the South Florida arts community. Mr. Young's life was a triumph and he will be missed by all who knew him. I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to him before the United States House of Representatives.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS
OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1963, the "Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009," which will finally give our brave men and women in uniform the benefits they deserve and provide their families and caregivers with the support that they need. Too many of our veterans return home—many of them wounded or disabled—after risking their lives on our behalf and do not receive adequate health care or benefits. Too many families fall into debt as they assume the responsibility of caring for a loved one who has returned from Iraq or Afghanistan. This bill will right these injustices.

I thank Chairman FILNER for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Senator AKAKA, for working hard to ensure that our Nation's dedication to its veterans matches their selfless devotion to this country.

Mr. Speaker, representing a district that is home to over 24,000 veterans and the VA Medical Center of Long Beach, I understand the work that must be done to uphold our Nation's obligation to its veterans. Unfortunately, for years the health care services provided for our Nation's veterans have been inadequate. Veterans' families have been especially overburdened by this failure. When wounded or disabled veterans return home from overseas, family members often become their primary caregivers. However willing these individuals may be to care for their loved one, the truth is that family members often lack the resources or skills needed to provide the care that our veterans deserve. S. 1963 will provide training and financial assistance to family caregivers, so that veterans' families can afford to provide them with quality care.

In addition, S. 1963 will improve health care for female veterans. For too long, female veterans have lacked access to comprehensive health care. We cannot stand for this kind of discrimination. S. 1963 will break down this barrier and give female veterans access to health professionals specializing in the specific health care needs of women. Among many other things, the bill will provide counseling and care to female veterans suffering from sexual trauma.